

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANA 00945 100700Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 STR-04
JUSE-00 /094 W
-----100706Z 099868 /10

P R 100500Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 618
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L 945

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT

REF: STATE 43693

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED MAJOR POINTS OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANA 00945 100700Z

REFTEL WITH YARG DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD AL-JUNAYD
ON MARCH 8 AND LEFT WITH HIM COPY OF SECRETARY'S RECENT
BOYCOTT STATEMENT. WHILE ADMITTING HE WAS NOT CLEAR ON
EXACT NATURE OF YEMEN'S OBSERVANCE OF BOYCOTT PROCEDURES,
AL-JUNAYD WAS GENERALLY RESPONSIVE TO ARGUMENTS CON-
TAINED IN REFTEL, PARTICULARLY THAT FOR POSITIVE CERTIFI-
CATION. HE PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE FURTHER WHETHER YARG

WOULD BE ABLE TO AMKE ADDITIONAL STATEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MARCH 8 AMBASSADOR SCOTES ACCOMPANIED BY ECONOMIC OFFICER JOHN EGAN MCATEER CALLED ON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MUHAMMAD AL-JUNAYD TO PRESENT HIM WITH A COPY OF SECRETARY VANCE'S FEBRUARY 28 AND MARCH 1 BOYCOTT STATEMENTS AS WELL AS TO DISCUSS THE BOYCOTT ISSUE AS IT EFFECTS YEMENI/US RELATIONS. STRESSING THAT THE US WISHES TO CONTINUE ITS CLOSE AND CORDIAL COOPERATION WITH THE ARAB WORLD IN GENERAL AND WITH YEMEN IN PARTICULAR THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT TO AL-JUNAYD THE NEED FOR OPEN AND FRANK DISCUSSION ON THE BOYCOTT ISSUE BECAUSE OF ITS IMPACT NOT ONLY ON US/ARAB COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BUT ALSO ON THE CURRENT SEARCH FOR PEACE FOR WHICH ALL MODERATE ARABS IN THE AREA ARE NOW WORKING AND WHICH THE US IS COMMITTED TO DO ITS UTMOST TO ACHIEVE. NOTING THAT THE US RECOGNIZES FULLY THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF ALL COUNTRIES TO REGULATE THEIR COMMERCE, THE AMBASSADOR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN PRACTICES OF THE ARAB BOYCOTT WITH WHICH AMERICANS CANNOT IN GOOD CONSCIENCE ABIDE. AMBASSADOR OBSERVED THAT THE CONGRESS IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING LEGISLATION RE THIS MATTER AND THAT THE USG HOPES THEREFORE THAT THE ARAB STATES CAN TAKE CERTAIN STEPS TO REDUCE THE PROBLEMS AT ISSUE, SPECIFICALLY THE CASE OF SECONDARY BOYCOTT PROCEDURES AS WELL AS THE QUESTIONS OF NEGATIVE CERTIFICATIONS AND DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF RELIGION.

3. AS AMBASSADOR REVIEWED MAJOR POINTS OF REFTEL, AL-JUNAYD SEEMED TO REWPOND MOST FAVORABLY TO REQUEST FOR CHANGE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANA 00945 100700Z

FROM NEGATIVE TO POSITIVE CERTIFICATION. HE INTERJECTED THAT HE THOUGHT THE CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE HAD AGREED TO SUCH A CHANGE A FEW DAYS AGO AS A WAY OF "HELPING THE NEW ADMINISTRATION". IF SUCH WAS THE CASE, HE SAID,

YEMEN COULD CERTAINLY FOLLOW SUIT.

4. AL-JUNAYD ADMITTED THAT HE WAS NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT BOYCOTT PROCEDURES AND WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH MATTERS. AL-JUNAYD WAS, THEREFORE, BASICALLY NON-COMMITTAL REGARDING SECONDARY BOYCOTT PRACTICES, AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING BUSINESS FIRMS' RELATIONS WITH OTHER FIRMS OR COUNTRIES. HE SAID THAT AFTER HE INVESTIGATES HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION HE WILL INFORM THE EMBASSY WHEN HE HAS SOMETHING MORE DEFINITIVE TO SAY. HIS RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR A STATEMENT THAT THE YARG DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, RELIGION OR NATIONAL ORIGIN WAS BASICALLY THE SAME, ALTHOUGH HE

AGREED THAT SUCH PRACITCES DO NOT HELP THE ARAB IMAGE
IN THE WORLD.

5. COMMENT: THE BOYCOTT ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A
PROBLEM BETWEEN YARG AND USG THUS FAR, PRIMARILY BECAUSE
YARG IS RUN BY PRACTICAL AND GERNERALLY PRO-AMERICAN
TECHNOCRATS WHO DO NOT INTEND TO ALLOW BOYCOTT TO STAND
IN WAY OF EITHER YEMEN'S DEVELOPMENT OR OF YEMEN'S GOOD
RELATIONS WITH US. FACT THAT YEMEN'S TRADE WITH US IS
STILL MINISCULE MAY ALSO ACCOUNT FOR AL-JUNAYD'S RELAXED
ATTITUDE. IN ANY CASE, EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW THIS ISSUE
CLOSELY WITH YARG IN COMING WEEKS AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN
FAVORABLE OFFICIAL RESPONSE. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, EXPECT
YARG TO BE OUT IN FRONT OF ANY OF THE ARAB STATES.
SCOTES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOYCOTTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANA00945
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770082-0154
Format: TEL
From: SANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770373/aaaacmdw.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d5f73dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 43693
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3149432
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB BOYCOTT
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d5f73dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009